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HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

OF THE

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1964

Acting Medical Officer of Health ARTHUR C. GEE, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector F.W.Y. BUCKLEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ARTHUR C. GEE,
Acting
Medical Officer
of Health.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Halesworth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present formally the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District of Halesworth for the year 1964.

Preparation of the Report has been in the hands of Mr. Buckley, your Public Health Inspector, who has also written those items dealing with aspects of local sanitary work, and I am grateful to him for this.

It has not been possible - or fortunately from the public health point of view, necessary for me to devote much time to Halesworth, and I do not feel it is necessary for further comment on the Report to be made by me.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1965.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,107
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1964)	2,440
Number of inhabited houses (estimated)	931
Rateable Value	£72,826
Product of Penny Rate (estimated)	£287

	Halesworth Urban District	England & Wales
LIVE BIRTHS		
Number	36	-
Rate per 1,000 population	14.7	18.4
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS per cent of total live births	Nil	-
STILLBIRTHS		
Number	2	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	55.5	16.4
TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	38	-
INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under 1 year)	1	-
INFANT MORTALITY RATES		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	27.7	20.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	27.7	+
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	+
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	27.7	13.8
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births	27.7	+
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	26.3	28.2
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)		
Number of deaths	Nil	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	Nil	0.25

- Not applicable. + Not yet available.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL	17	19	36
Legitimate	17	19	36
Illegitimate	-	-	-

STILLBIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	2	2
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	1	1
Legitimate.....	-	1	1
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	1	1
Legitimate.....	-	1	1
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	1	1
Legitimate.....	-	1	1
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS - ALL AGES	Male	Female	TOTAL
DEATHS - All Ages.....	8	20	28

R ATT E S

RATES	Halesworth Urban District	England & Wales
Adjusted Birth Rate.....	17.6	-
Death rate per 1,000 estimate population.....	11.5	11.3
AdjustedDeath Rate.....	10.2	-

Comparability Factor (Births) 1.20
Comparability Factor (Deaths) 0.89

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

SEX	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATHS
Female	Under one week.	Other defined or ill-defined cause.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	1	1	2
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	4	6
18. Coronary disease, angina	-	7	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
20. Other heart disease	3	-	3
21. Other circulatory diseases	-	1	1
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	-	-	-
24. Bronchitis	-	-	-
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	-	2	2
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34. All other accidents	-	1	1
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	1	1
	8	20	28

ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATE : COMPARABILITY FACTOR

Local birth ratesare expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including those who have no influence on the birth rate. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a high proportion of them in a population tends to lower, and a small proportion tends to raise the true rate. The size of this proportion will vary in different areas and, therefore, the elimination or standardization of such a factor will give a truer comparison between areas.

The Registrar General issues a comparability factor on these lines. Multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by the comparability factor give the adjusted birth rate and can be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for deaths is obtained in a similar way to the above. The factors for certain areas, where rapid increase or reduction in the population materially affects its comparison by sex and age groups, and also adjusted on that account. Death rate area comparability factors are adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. Birth rate area comparability factors are also adjusted to take account of the presence of sterilepopulations in institutions for the mentally ill or mentally deficient.

Table showing the more important Causes of Death, numbers and percentages.

CAUSES OF DEATH	NO. OF DEATHS		PERCENTAGE	
	1963	1964	1963	1964
Diseases of circulatory system.....	16	11	47.05	39.3
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	4	6	11.76	21.4
Malignant diseases.....	5	4	14.70	14.3
Pneumonia and Bronchitis.....	4	-	11.76	-
Influenza.....	-	-	-	-
All other causes.....	5	7	14.70	25.0
TOTAL	34	28	99.97	100.0

In 1964, 75% of all deaths fell under the first three headings. The comparable figure for 1963 was 73% and 1962 was 88%.

Comparative Statistics

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Population.....	2249	2270	2310	2310	2330	2350	2350	2400	2250	2290	2340	2440
No.of Inhabited Houses.	810	830	806	745	761	752	768	798	803	837	869	931
No. of Live Births.....	35	29	49	38	45	26	37	39	30	36	30	36
Birth Rate (Crude).....	15.5	12.8	21.2	16.5	19.3	11.0	15.7	16.25	13.3	15.7	12.7	14.7
No. of Stillbirths.....	1	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Maternal Mortality.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infant Mortality Rate..	142.8	0	20.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.7	66.6	27.7
(No.of Deaths).....	(5)	(-)	(1)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(1)	(2)	(1)
No. of Deaths (all ages)	30	30	18	23	25	21	19	26	22	27	34	28
Death Rate (crude).....	13.3	13.2	7.8	9.9	10.7	8.9	8.0	10.83	9.8	11.7	14.5	11.5

Infectious Diseases

Number of all confirmed cases of Infectious and other notifiable Diseases notified during the year 1964 according to age and sex.

	Measles			Scarlatina		
	Male	Female	TOTAL	Male	Female	TOTAL
Under 1	1	-	1	-	-	-
1 -	1	2	3	-	-	-
2 -	1	2	3	-	-	-
3 -	-	2	2	-	-	-
4 -	4	4	8	-	1	1
5 - 9.....	2	3	5	-	-	-
10 - 14.....	-	2	2	-	-	-
15 - 24.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44.....	-	1	1	-	-	-
45 - 64.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	9	16	25	-	1	1

9 Males plus 17 Females = 26.

Diseases notified during the year, classified according to month of occurrence

	Measles	Scarlatina
January.....	9	-
February.....	1	1
March.....	1	-
April.....	4	-
May.....	3	-
June.....	2	-
July.....	4	-
August.....	1	-
September.....	-	-
October.....	-	-
November.....	-	-
December.....	-	-
TOTAL	25	1

TUBERCULOSIS

	Males		Females		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
No.of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1963. ...	3	1	7	2	13
No.of cases added during the year	1	-	-	-	1
No.of cases removed during the year	-	-	1	1	2
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1964	4	1	6	1	12

Cases added to the Register		Cases removed from the Register	
New notifications.....	1	Recovered.....	2
Inward transfers.....	-	Died.....	-
		Removed to other areas.....	-
Total.....	1	Total.....	2

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1964.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year 1964.

WATER:

During the period under review, the water supply to the Urban District of Halesworth has been under the control of the East Anglian Water Company. The principal source of supply continues to be the artesian bore at the Chediston Street Works - this is being supplemented increasingly by water from the Waterworks at Walpole.

Work on the installation of a ring main around Halesworth has been completed, which ensures a supplementary supply from Walpole to the Bungay Road Tower. New Headworks are being constructed at Holton, which will also contribute to the Halesworth supply in the future.

Bacteriological reports show the water to be very satisfactory for drinking and for general purposes.

Number of houses supplied from water mains direct to houses - 930., plus - 39., metered supplies (these figures include factories, farms and premises occupied for business and dwelling purposes).

Number of houses supplied by means of a standpipe...	11.
Number of houses not supplied...	1.
Number of population supplied by mains water supply.....	2,400.
Number of population supplied by means of standpipes.....	34.
Number of population not supplied from mains. ...	6.
Number of units paying hose rates.	71.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL:

The Sewage Disposal Works at Bramfield Road continues to work satisfactorily.

The number of pail closets in the area has been reduced by 13 during the year, leaving 32. This reduction is due not only to connections to the sewer but also to the closure of a number of houses.

The Bungay Road/Broadway area to the North of the Town is without sewers. Whilst there are few houses in the area, it should be borne in mind that with any large scale development of the area, that foul and storm sewers will have to be provided and that the difficulty of levels might be overcome by connecting to the sewer in Fairview Road.

The Sewerage Works which, in addition to the sewerage from Halesworth, takes the sewerage from the Villages of "Wissett" and "Holton", has dealt with the total flow of these three places fairly adequately. Samples of effluent are taken at regular intervals by the East Suffolk and Norfolk River Board and, the results have shown, to some degree, the overloading which has occurred. It is now known, however, that the proposed extensions to the works will be commenced in 1965., with increased capacities for settlement, digestion and drying, together with the provision of Storm Tanks, and these extensions should be able to cope adequately with sewage flow for an appreciable period.

/Sludge

Sludge burning has continued at the Works. An additional burner was improvised during the year and it is gratifying to report that with three small improvised burners at work during the long period of dry summer weather, the rate of burning kept pace with the amount of dried sludge to be dealt with.

The degree of success which has been obtained in this work, has been largely due to the ingenuity and application of the attendant at the Sewage works, without whose interest the results would not have been achieved. Whilst the results of this experimental work are satisfactory, it must be stressed that the burners were improvised from any material which could be salvaged; that it is almost impossible to carry out burning all the year round unless more permanent burners are made together with some form of cover for the dried sludge awaiting burning.

It is still felt that burning is one of several methods of dried sludge disposal, which should be considered, as there is little doubt that such disposal will become an increasing problem in the future for all smaller disposal plants with insufficient output to attract the attention of Contractors.

PUBLIC CLEANSING:

A weekly collection of household refuse is made by the Council, employing two men and one refuse lorry. Disposal is by means of controlled tip at Mells

As was stated in my last Report, the present system of collection has been in existence for a considerable period and increase in the amount of collection has been largely offset by the use of a larger refuse collection vehicle some four years ago. Two factors, however, affect the problem, which is the considerable increase in bin contents due to the modern use of pre-packed articles; this is a national problem, together with the fact that the number of houses within the Urban Area, is increasing rapidly.

The first problem, that of bin content, might be overcome by pulverization, cost of installation and operation of machinery would prove prohibitive; firing of refuse can cause nuisance from smoke and smell and the only alternative is the use of controlled tipping with the increasing problem of control and finding suitable site for such work.

The second situation, which is local, has meant that the collection of shop refuse has had to be carried out by using tractor and covered trailer to be transported to waste land adjoining the sewage works to be burnt under supervision.

Arrangements are in hand for dealing with the increasing number of bins to be dealt with in the future.

Street cleansing is carried out daily and stormwater gullies are emptied at regular intervals.

RODENT CONTROL:

One of the Council's Employees, who has had the requisite training, is employed part-time by the Council as a Roden Operator. There are 931 houses in the area together with premises comprising commercial, industrial, entertainment, educational and miscellaneous undertakings and, complaints of rodent infestation are dealt with immediately. During the year 38 minor infestations of rats were dealt with and two infestations of mice.

DISINFESTATION:

Disinfestation service is available and again the principal calls were for disinfestation of wasps nests and disinfestation for ants and fleas. 31 Wasps nests were destroyed and there were four requests for disinfestation for fleas.

It is noticeable that calls for disinfestation service are decreasing. This is largely due to greater awareness by the public, not only of the measures necessary to combat such infestation and the numerous preparations which are available for this purpose, but also of the primary causes of these infestations; Accumulations of garden and household refuse; manure heaps - animals, of all types, - which are not kept in a sanitary condition can be sources of infestation, and a source of continuous annoyance to the neighbours of those people who will not bother to take the necessary steps to prevent infestation.

/Food premises;

FOOD PREMISES:

There are 10 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream in the area -- all of which sell prepared ice-cream. There are no premises registered for the purpose of manufacturing ice-cream.

4 premises are registered for the manufacture of sausage and sausage meat.

114 inspections of food premises were carried out during the year and it was pleasing to note that on only two occasions was there cause for dissatisfaction. There is however, one aspect of food handling which causes some concern - Shopkeepers do provide the necessary washing facilities in food shops and employees should be made to realise that these facilities are provided for their use. There is no excuse whatsoever for pre-packed or open goods to be served with unclean hands and it is preferable that sandwiches, confectionery or any unwrapped food, which is not going to be cooked, should be served with tongs.

MEAT INSPECTION:

There is no Slaughterhouse in the Council's area.

Care in meat handling has been carefully observed by meat traders in the area and there have been no occasions when it has been necessary to take action. As in other Food Trades care must be taken at all times in such handling and it is noticeable that very real efforts are being made by Meat Traders to prevent unnecessary handling of meat.

HOUSING:

During the year 63 houses were inspected - 11 of which were found to be unsatisfactory in some respects. As a result of informal action, the necessary repairs have been carried out at each of these houses.

No houses were demolished as a result of informal action.

2 Demolition Orders were served.

3 houses were demolished under Clearance Orders.

24 new houses were built by the local Authority and
20 houses by Private enterprise.

4 Standard Grants were made during the year and
2 Discretionary Grants.

In my last Report, mention was made of the House Building Scheme which was embarked upon by the Halesworth Urban District Council. This Scheme has continued very successfully with the completion of an additional Contract and the placing of further Contracts for the erection of houses for sale and to let.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Part. I., of the Act.

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Inspections. (3)	Number of written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5).
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	19	NIL.	NIL.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7., is enforced by the Local Authority.	28	49	NIL.	NIL.
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7., is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	4	12	NIL.	NIL.
Total	36	80		

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found. Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector. (4)	Referred By.H.M. Inspector. (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)					
Overcrowing (S.2.).....					
Unreasonable temp. (S.3.).....					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)....					
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.5.).....					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.).....					
(a) Insufficient.....					
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....					
(c) Not separate for sexes.....					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).....					

NIL

Part VIII of the Act.

Sections 133 and 134 - A NIL RETURN.

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The Registration of premises under the above Act has been continued and the following Statistics are submitted:-

Offices...	33.
Retails Shops...	54.
Wholesale shops, warehouses.	11.
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens. ...	3.
Fuel storage depots...	2.
Total number of Visits made to Registered Premises.. ...	181.

Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace:

Offices...	121.
Retails shops...	163.
Wholesale departments, warehouses.	41.
Catering establishments open to the public....	4.
Canteens..	3.
Fuel Storage Depots...	8.
Total. ...	340.
Total Males,	176.
Total Females.	164.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

F.W.BUCKLEY,

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector.